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Applicants: Alguera Gallego et al
U.S. Serial No.: 09/786,041
International Application No.: PCT/EP99/06338
International Filing Date: 28 August 1999
Title: SUPPORTING DEVICE
Agent's Reference No.: FMW-EE-PCT-US
Date: May 11, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the originally filed claims 9 through 13 as follows:

Please substitute the following claims for the pending claim of the same number.

9. (Amended) A supporting device according to Claim 8, wherein the foot receiving device consists of two laterally reversed halves.

10. (Amended) A supporting device according to Claim 1, wherein the component comprises a vertically arranged tube whose outside diameter is less than or equal to the inside diameter of the inner sleeve in at least one section.

11. (Amended) A supporting device according to Claim 10, wherein the tube is a rectangular tube.

09/786,041 PCT/EP99/06338

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*See
Entry*

12. (Amended) A supporting device according to Claim 10, wherein the bearing points are attached to the outer surface of the tube.

13. (Amended) A supporting device according to Claim 1, wherein the opening is closed off by a cover.
